

83 Newgate Road  
East Granby, CT 06026

March 6, 2022

Dear Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

**Please vote no on HB 5295** that establishes a factory-like farming program to slaughter thousands of rabbits for food consumption under the guise of promoting farming in Connecticut.

This is an important issue to us. We have spent our adult lives volunteering for animal rescues, especially rabbit rescue organizations. Rabbits are wonderful and popular household pets. We and many of our friends have had rabbits as house pets for decades.

In 2015, Whole Foods tried to sell rabbit meat but customers rejected the product and their experiment was quickly discontinued. While the rest of the country has recognized and elevated rabbits as pets, and innovation in the agriculture field is moving away from meat products, Connecticut is taking a step backward in proposing this initiative.

Also, **please support and improve SB 239**. Poisons used to kill rodents (rodenticides) find their way into the ecosystem and wreak havoc with wildlife especially hawks, owls, eagles and other birds of prey and even jeopardize children and pets. This bill is a good first step but stronger measures are needed.

Please support a ban on lethal second generation products and limit the use of first generation rodenticides on state property and public land including wildlife habitats.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ellen & Bob Ravens-Seger  
860-668-7132